

TWO SHIPS SUNK

ALL CHANNEL TRAFFIC IS CANCELED FROM ENGLAND TO FRENCH PORTS.

WILMELMINA TO PRIZE COURT

British Government Announces American Vessel Bound for Germany With Food Cargo Must Await Decision of Tribunal.

London, Feb. 22.—The cargo of the American steamer Wilmelmina will be held by the British government pending a decision of the prize court. And British merchant vessels will continue to use the American flag, or any other flag, whenever they think it necessary to do so to escape destruction by the Germans.

If this results in destruction of an American vessel by a German submarine, the United States government must look to Germany—not to England—for redress.

This announcement was made on Friday by Sir Edward Grey, foreign secretary.

In a memorandum relating to the controversy between Great Britain and the United States over foodstuffs it is made clear that Great Britain intends to declare all foodstuffs for Germany contraband.

The foreign office transmitted to Ambassador Page its reply to the American protest against a general use by British merchant vessels of the American flag.

The note admits that the Cunarder Lusitania on her most recent voyage from New York to Liverpool raised the American flag, but only "to save the lives of noncombatants, crew and passengers."

It denies that it is the intention of the British government to advise British merchant vessels to use foreign flags, but makes it clear that the use of foreign flags will be permitted. The note defending the practice cites the fact that the United States used the British flag for a like purpose during the Civil war.

Two ships were blown up in the Germans' war zone, one of them a neutral vessel.

The Norwegian tank steamer Belridge arrived in Walmer with the fore part of her hull full of water. She either struck a mine or was torpedoed, in the west part of the English channel. Eighteen men with the pilot took to the boats. Nothing has been heard from them.

The French steamer Dinorah was torpedoed without warning by a German submarine believed to be the U-16, a few miles from the French port of Dieppe. The torpedo failed to sink the Dinorah, but stove in a plate below the water line. The steamer was towed into Dieppe. A fleet of French destroyers was dispatched from Cherbourg in search of the submarine.

After the torpedoing of the Dinorah it was announced by the admiralty that sea traffic between England and the continent would be discontinued immediately. Sailing of passenger boats were canceled, although mail service continued.

IMPORTANT NEWS ITEMS

Washington, Feb. 18.—The government ship purchase bill, as an amendment to the Weeks naval auxiliary bill, was passed by the house at 1:20 o'clock Wednesday morning by a vote of 215 to 121. The passage of the bill followed a 14-hour parliamentary struggle.

London, Feb. 18.—The prophecy that Italy would mobilize her army within a fortnight was made here by Riccotti Garibaldi, the Italian patriot. He said that unless the Italian government decided to participate in the war, there would be a revolution.

Paris, Feb. 19.—A report is current here, but not confirmed, that a mutiny occurred at Ghent in the beginning of the month in which about 5,000 men, including thirty officers, were involved. According to this report the mutineers were bound two and two and sent in the direction of Brussels, Malines, Antwerp and Namur.

KING ADJOURNS PARLIAMENT

Move of Spanish Ruler Due to Economic and Financial Crisis Which Requires Attention.

Madrid, Feb. 19.—An economic and financial crisis has developed in Spain. King Alfonso Thursday signed a decree adjourning parliament indefinitely, despite the fact that important bills are pending. The premier announced that the government is compelled to devote all its attention now to applying the law recently passed to meet the domestic crisis.

Dynamiter's Aid Is Taken.

Seattle, Feb. 22.—David Caplan, last of the men wanted in connection with the dynamiting of the Los Angeles Times in the fall of 1910, was arrested on Bainbridge island, 12 miles from Seattle on Friday.

Murders Wife and Himself.

Chicago, Feb. 22.—Mrs. Augusta Johnson, thirty-five years old, was shot twice and instantly killed by her husband, Harry Johnson, thirty-three years old, a painter. Johnson then killed himself.

SEND REPLY TO KAISER

WASHINGTON CLAIMS GERMAN ORDER VIOLATES TREATY.

Wilson and Cabinet Hold Important Conference to Consider Answer to Germany.

Washington, Feb. 22.—In a note drafted by the cabinet at a momentous meeting at the White House on Friday, President Wilson will tell Germany that her "war zone" decree is in violation of treaty stipulations entered into with the United States, which guarantee to the United States noninterference with its sea commerce when Germany is at war, and which grant the same privileges to Germany when the United States is a belligerent.

The treaties specifically set forth that if either nation is at war the neutral nation's commerce and intercourse with any nation at war with the other party to the treaty "shall not be interrupted" and "on the contrary" "the vessels of the neutral party may navigate to and from the ports and on the coasts of the belligerent parties."

The first treaty, to which the attention of Germany will be drawn, is that made under the direction of Frederick the Great, and signed by his representative and by Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams.

The second treaty is that signed by John Quincy Adams and the representatives of the king of Prussia. Both these treaties expired by their own limitation, the first in 1796, the second in 1810. But the provisions which guarantee immunity to American ships and American citizens, and which the government authorities insist apply in the present instance, were continued by the treaty of 1828.

PRESIDENT ILL; TAKES REST

Wilson Delays New Session of Congress on the Shipping Bill—To Seek Views of Public.

Washington, Feb. 15.—There will be no immediate extra session of the Sixty-fourth congress. The president has settled all doubts. The president is far from well. His nervous system is for a time at least impaired. Occasional headaches have drifted into periodical neuralgia and this now shows symptoms of becoming chronic. Mr. Wilson will welcome the rest and change which he will find in the trip to California and the exposition. The president will tap the wires of public opinion at every stop between Washington and San Francisco on the shipping bill in an endeavor to get his cue for future action. And when Mr. Wilson returns to Washington he will have made up his mind between two courses, whether to call his extra session of the Sixty-fourth congress on May 5 or on September 15. This is the president's schedule to date. It is authentic.

ZEPPELIN AIRSHIP EXPLODES

Report From Copenhagen Correspondent Tells of Accident Off Coast of Jutland.

Copenhagen, via London, Feb. 19.—The correspondent of the Politiken reports that a Zeppelin dirigible exploded over the Danish island of Fanoe, off the west coast of Jutland. London, Feb. 19.—A big airship, believed to be of the Parseval type, apparently damaged by gunfire, flew over Amsterdam. The airship was flying at a height of about six hundred feet. Assuming a vertical position the aircraft drifted in the direction of the Zuyder Zee. The air vessel was later sighted minus its gondola.

BELGRADE 'HOUSES FIRED ON

Serbia Reply by Bombarding Semlin, Doing Heavy Damage to Austrians.

Belgrade, Feb. 19, via London.—The Austrians carried out the heaviest bombardment of Belgrade since their evacuation of that city. A monitor and the Semlin batteries participated. Several houses were wrecked and many persons were killed or injured. The Serbians replied by bombarding Semlin for the first time. They did much damage and forced the monitor to retire. Sir Thomas Lipton, with Prince Paul, witnessed the bombardment from the royal palace.

SUFFRAGE UP TO VOTERS

New York Secretary of State Signs Resolution Adopted at Albany for Decision Next Fall.

Albany, N. Y., Feb. 19.—Surrounded by applauding women, Secretary of State Hugo signed the joint resolution of the senate and assembly submitting to the voters of the state next fall the question of woman suffrage.

Ambulances Go Abroad.

New York, Feb. 22.—The 17 light motor ambulances contributed by Yale and Harvard universities to the Red Cross have been shipped abroad for distribution in various sections of the war zone.

Russia Orders Motor Trucks.

Akron, O., Feb. 22.—An order for 300 large armored motor trucks costing about one million five hundred thousand dollars was placed by the Russian government with a local concern.

NATIONS SEND REPLY

GREAT BRITAIN AND GERMANY ANSWER NOTE ON BLOCKADE.

NO SATISFACTION IN EITHER

Germany Insists Blockade is Necessary and Urges Convoys for Ships—England Refuses to Accept Responsibility for Neutral Shipping.

Berlin, Germany (via London), Feb. 20.—The reply of Germany to the protest of the United States against a blockade of British waters is couched in the most friendly terms, but firmly maintains the position of Germany as already announced.

The note explains that Germany's proposed action is rendered necessary by Great Britain's policy of attempting to cut off the food supply for the German civil population by a method never recognized in international law. England's course in ordering merchantmen to fly neutral flags and equipping them with artillery, with orders to destroy submarines, the German reply contends, renders nugatory the right of search.

Germany holds that she cannot abandon that right under the stress which England has put upon her. Since Germany must compel the nations with which she is at war to return to the recognized principles of international law and restore the freedom of the seas, she argues that the stand she has taken is necessary.

The note recommends that the United States government send warships to England to convey merchant vessels through the danger zone, with the understanding that vessels thus guarded shall carry no war supplies.

Hope is expressed that the American government will understand the position in which Germany has been placed and appreciate the reasons for its course.

The German government feels itself obliged to point out with the greatest emphasis that a traffic in arms, estimated at many hundreds of millions, is being carried on between United States firms and Germany's enemies. Germany is ready to deliberate with the United States concerning any measure which might secure the safety of legitimate shipping of neutrals in the war zone.

GREAT BRITAIN'S ANSWER.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The text of the British government's reply to the American protest against British interference with American commerce was made public on Wednesday simultaneously in Washington and London.

The British government refuses to accept responsibility for the situation of American commercial and industrial interests, described as "pitiful" in the protest of the United States. It says that the effect of the war has been not to increase but practically arrest the decline of American exports, "which was in progress earlier in the year," and it adds that the cause of the unfavorable condition described by the American government "ought in fairness to be sought elsewhere than in the activities of his majesty's naval forces."

IOWA TO GO DRY JANUARY 1

House Passes Senate Bill Repealing Malt Law by Vote of 79 to 29.

Des Moines, Ia., Feb. 19.—The house Thursday passed the senate bill repealing the Malt law by a vote of 79 to 29. This makes Iowa statutory dry January 1, 1916.

The final vote came only after a desperate attempt on the part of wets to tack an amendment to the bill which would force it to go back to the senate.

ZAPATA NOW HOLDS CAPITAL

Carranza Forces Under General Obregon Reported to Have Evacuated Mexico City.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The state department was notified in official dispatches that the Carranza forces under General Obregon have again evacuated Mexico City, and that the forces of General Zapata now occupy the Mexican capital.

POTATO RIOTS ARE REPORTED

Officials Superintending Sale at Schenber, Germany, Beaten, and Building Partly Destroyed.

London, Feb. 19.—Potato riots in Schenber, Germany, are reported by the Exchange Telegraph company's correspondent in Amsterdam. Officials superintending the sale were beaten and the municipal buildings partially destroyed, he asserts.

Bank Wrecker Goes to Pen.

Lexington, Ky., Feb. 22.—George Alexander, who was sentenced to not less than seven nor more than seventy years for wrecking the Alexander bank of Paris, Ky., of which he was president, has been taken to prison.

Boomer Sentenced for Life.

Akron, O., Feb. 22.—Harry Boomer, hatchet murderer of Vinnie Becker, mission worker, pale but composed, faced a jury here and pleaded guilty. Boomer was then sentenced to a life term in the penitentiary.

BLOCKADE NOW ON

GERMANS OPEN THREATENED SEA CAMPAIGN.

British Guard Coasts to Prevent Landing of Teuton Troops—Ships Held in Ports.

London, Feb. 19.—The German proclamation of a maritime war zone about the British isles is in effect, and the full force of that country's submarine destructiveness is supposed to have been loosed in an effort to isolate Great Britain and ruin its shipping commerce.

As a result military law has superseded civil in practically all the coast cities and districts to prevent any possible attempt on the part of the Germans to land troops.

The Germans in their blockade effort did not wait for the stroke of midnight to begin their campaign. They started, or rather they continued their previous efforts on Tuesday evening at six o'clock, when they torpedoed and sent to the bottom the British steam collier Dulwich, whose crew of 31, with the possible exception of two, escaped solely by their own efforts. The attack was delivered at a point 20 miles northeast of Cape Heve, in the English channel.

Shortly after the destruction of the Dulwich a German submarine blew up and destroyed the French steamer Ville de Lille, off Barbeur, the crew saving themselves in the ten minutes allotted them by the German commander.

A statement by the French ministry of marine announcing this fact contains the information that the submarine, which is believed to have been the U-16 and certainly one of the U class, subsequently pursued a Norwegian steamer, which was saved by the arrival of French destroyers.

This is the first instance in the war of an attack upon a vessel of a neutral power. Norway is expected now to supplement its previous protest to Germany by a reference to this definite case.

In order to prevent any unnecessary loss of life all ship service between England, Holland and France, except to one point in the latter country, has been stopped.

LONG DEADLOCK IS ENDED

David E. Shanahan Is Elected Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 18.—The trick has been turned at last. The house of representatives of the Illinois legislature is graced by a regular speaker. It was a hard struggle, consuming over six weeks of expensive time, but at last David E. Shanahan of Chicago, the dean of the assembly, was elected by Republican votes, with a splash of "wet" and Igoe Democratic votes.

Eighty representatives registered in favor of Shanahan, three more than were necessary to elect. Forty-nine of these were Democrats and 1 were Republicans. The end came on the second ballot of the day, which was the sixty-eighth taken.

PROHIBITS AFTERNOON TEAS

Functions Are Unnecessary Extravagance—Maximum Price of Potatoes Withdrawn.

London, Feb. 20.—A news agency dispatch from Amsterdam states that the authorities in Berlin have prohibited afternoon teas in the cafes on the ground the functions are unnecessarily extravagant. It adds that the price of potatoes has advanced so greatly that the fixed maximum price has been withdrawn.

The Bavarian minister of the interior has entered an agreement with agricultural banks and societies to purchase corn and other supplies German taxes are increasing.

SUBMARINE U-2 UNDAMAGED

Destroyer of British Warship Pathfinder Returns to Base—Captain Hensing Decorated for Bravery.

Berlin, Feb. 20.—The German submarine U-2, which sank the British warship Pathfinder and also some British merchant ships in the Irish sea, has returned undamaged to the base at Wilhelmshaven. The submarine's commander, Captain Lieutenant Hensing, has been decorated with the Iron Cross for bravery.

Business Section Wiped Out.

Johnstown, Pa., Feb. 19.—Practically the entire business section of Ebensburg, mountain summer resort and county seat of Cambria county, was wiped out by fire which broke out in the Mountain house. Every building in the block from the Mountain house to the county court house was destroyed. The loss is estimated at between \$250,000 and \$300,000.

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Frank James Is Dead.

Kearney, Mo., Feb. 20.—Frank James, aged seventy-four, one of the most daring of the notorious band of bank and train robbers of forty years ago, died on his farm near here. Bursting of a blood vessel killed him.

U. S. SHIP HITS MINE

STEAMER EVELYN SENT TO BOTTOM OFF GERMAN COAST.

TWENTY-EIGHT OF CREW SAVED

Washington Advised Officially of Disaster—American Officials Abroad to Make Inquiry.

Berlin.—The American steamer Evelyn, which sailed from New York on January 29 with a cargo of cotton for Bremen, struck a mine off Borkum island in the North Sea and sank. Her captain and twenty-seven of the crew were saved.

The Evelyn is the first American vessel to meet with disaster as a result of the warfare in European waters. She did not sink within the war zone included in the German admiralty's decree of February 4. Borkum island lies directly off the German coast at the mouth of the Ems river, and is German territory.

Maritime records give the complement of the Evelyn at twenty-five men, so that it is probable that all on board the vessel were rescued.

The Evelyn was a single-screw steel steamship and was commanded by Captain Smith. She belonged to A. H. Bull & Co. of New York and was chartered by the Harris-Irby Cotton Co. to take a cargo of cotton to Bremen. She was 255 feet long and 1,185 tons net. She was built in Southampton, England, in 1883. Her home port was Philadelphia. The Evelyn was last reported as arriving at Rotterdam on February 17.

U. S. Hears of Disaster.

Washington.—The United States government was advised officially of the first instance of destruction of an American vessel on the high seas since the outbreak of the European war. American Consul Fee at Bremen cabled that the steamer Evelyn, and its cargo of cotton, bound for Bremen, had been "blown up at Borkum," just off the coast of Germany, but that the crew had been saved. The cause—submarine or mine—was not given in the dispatch.

After a conference with President Wilson, Secretary Bryan cabled Ambassador Page at London and Ambassador Gerard at Berlin to make an extensive inquiry as to the facts, and, if the crew were landed at either of their respective jurisdictions, to furnish every care and convenience to Captain Smith and his men, so that they might return home safely.

Battle With Indians.

Durango, Colo.—A message from Bluff, Utah, to Dolores told of the killing of Joseph Akin and two Pute Indians in a fight between members of the posse of United States deputies, headed by Marshal Nebeker, and a band of Indians led by "Old Folk," father of Tse-ne-gal, whose arrest is being sought by the federal authorities. Joe Cordova, another member of the posse of deputies, was wounded in the shoulder, and six Indians were captured, according to the Dolores report. The remainder of "Old Folk's" band escaped into Cottonwood canyon, it was stated.

Austria Will Join Move.

Geneva.—Austria will follow Germany's lead in its treatment of neutral shipping in the Adriatic, although possessing few submarines, says a dispatch from Innsbruck.

It is reported here that William of Germany and Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria-Hungary, with their staffs, soon will hold a conference at some town near the frontier between the two countries. The rulers have not met since the war began.

Meet Ends in Riot.

Rome.—A general fight in which many persons were wounded, occurred at a meeting called by the persons favorable to Italy remaining neutral in the war and those desiring the government to intervene, at which it was intended that speakers should give their respective views of the parties. The police finally charged the crowd and dispersed it.

Irish Boat Torpedoed.

London.—The small Irish coasting steamer Downshire has been sunk by a German submarine off Calf of Man, an island in the Irish sea. The Germans gave the crew five minutes in which to leave their ship. The crew landed safely at Dundrum, County Down.

Dies at Age of 105 Years.

Ilyannis, Neb.—Sarah Wright, one of Nebraska's oldest residents, died here at the age of over 105 years. She was in very fair health up to this winter.

Will Sign Racing Bills.

Carson City, Nev.—Governor Emmet Boyle has issued a statement announcing that he would sign the two racing bills passed by the legislature, creating a racing commission and legalizing a pari-mutual system of betting on horse races.

Don't Need Artesian Water.

Pierre, S. D.—There is no pressing need of conservation of the artesian waters of the state is the opinion of the members of the house, who voted down the Gudahi bill to that effect.

CONDENSED NEWS

OF INTEREST TO ALL.

A boy scouts' club is being organized at Elmwood.

Mrs. W. J. Dundas, wife of editor Auburn Granger, is dead.

Nearly fifty cases of measles are under quarantine at Juniata.

Broken Bow has defeated the \$17,000 sewer bond proposition.

First national bank of Chappell will erect a \$7,000 bank building.

A farmers' institute will be held in Tecumseh February 26 and 27.

Five rural community clubs have been organized in Kimball county.

A proposition to irrigate county is being considered by Alliance citizens.

Hebron State bank has bought interests of First National bank of that city.

Central City will vote on a \$21,000 water main bond extension proposition.

Three teams of mules brought \$1,497 at Scheel Bros. sale near Syracuse.

The Chadron Ice and Creamery company will erect a plant at that place.

According to the new city directory, Omaha claims over 200,000 population.

The new \$30,000 high school building at Cedar Bluffs has been dedicated.

R. E. Countryman, near Weeping Water, sold a fifty-acre farm for \$250 per acre.

There will be no wet and dry fight at Fremont this year, as had been contemplated.

The supreme court has declared the village of Newman Grove in Madison county to be wet.

Edgar will vote on a bond issue of \$13,500 for the erection of a new electric light plant.

The old Nebraska National Bank building at Beatrice was sold recently at a sheriff's sale.

The Elmwood Booster club has put into practice a new plan of furnishing an auctioneer free.

Fifteen car loads of furniture have already arrived to furnish Omaha's million dollar hotel.

Fire in the dry goods store of M. E. Smith & Co. at Chadron caused a loss estimated at \$8,600.

Hastings has rumors that jitney service is to be established there in two weeks by Omaha men.

Farmers and business men of the vicinity of Liberty have community club of forty-two members.

Nebraska is twenty-fifth in point of school efficiency, according to figures in superintendent's office.

Mrs. Frank Paul of Cedar Bluffs suffered a serious accident when she fell on a walk and broke her hip.

Hastings has a petition started for 1,200 signatures to call \$130,000 bond election for new school buildings.

John F. Walsh of Humboldt has been appointed commandant of the old soldiers and sailors' home at Burket.

The new bridge to be constructed over the Platte river at North Platte will give that city a direct highway to the east.

Attorney General Reed has written to all county attorneys in state announcing his willingness to co-operate with them.

Gas service from the new plant being constructed by the North Platte Electric & Power company will soon be ready.

Bader Bros. have sold their Main street block at Fremont to Joe Verbin of the Omaha store. The consideration was \$14,000.

Two horses belonging to the Tip Top bakery of Lincoln were electrocuted when they ran into a telephone wire at that city.

The young son of Harry Doty of Weeping Water was saved from a pet wolf by his uncle, who choked the animal to death.

Fire damaged the Board of Trade building at Omaha to the extent of over \$100,000. A new and modern skyscraper may be erected in its place.

Grand Island Morning Free Press, owned chiefly by W. H. Thompson, chairman democratic state committee, is to be continued as weekly, instead of daily.

The secretary of the treasury at Washington has awarded the contract for the construction of the public building at McCook, Neb., to C. E. Goodhand, Ord, Neb., at \$107,278.

Prosper Trowbridge, a well-to-do farmer, living on the Whittaker land east of Lyons, committed suicide by hanging himself at his home. He leaves a widow and nine children.

Visits to South Omaha are each year growing more popular with the students and faculty of the state school of agriculture. This year over 350 students made the annual trip.

Sixteen wireless telegraphy experts of Lincoln have formed a Nebraska Radio association and nightly catch talks at their various local stations from Arlington, Va., Key West, New Orleans and Sayville, Long Island.

Bids for the construction of the \$50,000 bridge over the Platte river at North Platte will be received until noon March 17.

Richard E. Rambo of Blue Springs, one of the oldest Masons in the state, now attending school of instruction in Beatrice, owns an apron worn by his father at Wilmington, Del., reception in 1825.

The value of Nebraska's 1914 crop of alfalfa at an average price of \$7 per ton was \$22,466,385, which entitles it to be classed as one of our leading crops, as it is fourth in value within the state.